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WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A storage library for recording and retrieving information from
2 a plurality of storage media cartridges, wherein each storage media cartridge has a
3 label side, the storage library comprising:
4 a housing having left, right, front, and back sides, wherein the front
5 side of the housing has an opening;
6 left and right plurality of slots disposed proximate the left and right
7 sides of the housing for holding the plurality of storage media cartridges, wherein the
8 left and right plurality of slots and the plurality of storage media cartridges are
9 oriented so that each label side of the plurality of storage media cartridges is visible
10 to an operator through the opening, wherein each of the left and right plurality of
11 slots are accessible to the operator via the opening for the operator to access the
12 storage media cartridges being held by the left and right plurality of slots;
13 at least one media drive disposed proximate the back side of the
14 housing, the at least one media drive being operative to receive a storage media
15 cartridge through a port; and
16 a robotic mechanism disposed between the left and right plurality of
17 slots, the robotic mechanism being operative to move the plurality of storage media
18 cartridges between the plurality of slots and the at least one media drive.

1 2. The storage library of claim 1 wherein the robotic mechanism
2 further comprises:
3 a first linear carriage disposed between the left and right plurality of
4 slots, and operative to move along a first path perpendicular to the back side of the
5 housing;
6 a second linear carriage disposed on the first linear carriage and
7 operative to move in a direction perpendicular to the first linear carriage;
8 a rotational carriage disposed on the second linear carriage and
9 operative to rotate between the left and right plurality of slots and the at least one
10 media drive; and

11 a picker assembly disposed on the rotational carriage and operative to
12 insert and remove at least one storage media cartridge from the left and right
13 plurality of slots and the at least one media drive.

1 3. The storage library of claim 2 wherein each storage media
2 cartridge has a bar-code on the label side, the storage library further comprising a
3 bar-code reader disposed on the rotational carriage, and operative to read the bar-
4 code on the label side of each storage media cartridge.

1 4. The storage library of claim 1 wherein the robotic mechanism
2 further comprises:

3 a first linear carriage disposed between the left and right plurality of
4 slots, and operative to move along a path approximately perpendicular to the back
5 side of the housing;

6 a rotational carriage disposed on the first linear carriage, and operative
7 to rotate between the left and right plurality of slots and the at least one media drive;
8 and

9 a picker assembly disposed on the rotational carriage, and operative
10 to insert and remove at least one storage media cartridge from the left and right
11 plurality of slots and the at least one media drive.

1 5. The storage library of claim 4 wherein each storage media
2 cartridge has a bar-code on the label side, the storage library further comprising a
3 bar-code reader disposed on the rotational carriage, and operative to read the bar-
4 code on the label side of each storage media cartridge.

1 6. The storage library of claim 4 wherein the at least one media
2 drive is at least two media drives, the storage library further comprising a rear linear
3 carriage disposed between the at least two media drives and the housing, and
4 operative to move the at least two media drives approximately parallel to the back
5 side of the housing to align each media drive one at a time with the picker assembly.

1 7. The storage library of claim 1 further comprising:

2 a left linear carriage disposed between the left plurality of slots and
3 the housing, and operative to move the left plurality of slots approximately parallel
4 to the left side of the housing;

5 a right linear carriage disposed between the right plurality of slots and
6 the housing, and operative to move the right plurality of slots approximately parallel
7 to the right side of the housing; and

8 wherein the robotic mechanism further comprises:

9 a rotational carriage disposed adjacent to the at least one media drive
10 and disposed between the left and right plurality of slots, the rotational carriage being
11 operative to rotate between the left and right plurality of slots and the at least one
12 media drive; and

13 a picker assembly disposed on the rotational carriage, and operative
14 to insert and remove at least one storage media cartridge from the left and right
15 plurality of slots and the at least one media drive.

1 8. The storage library of claim 7 wherein each storage media
2 cartridge has a bar-code on the label side, the storage library further comprising a
3 bar-code reader disposed on the rotational carriage, and operative to read the bar-
4 code on the label side of each storage media cartridge.

1 9. The storage library of claim 7 wherein the at least one media
2 drive is at least two media drives, the storage library further comprising a rear linear
3 carriage disposed between the at least two media drives and the housing, and
4 operative to move the at least two media drives approximately parallel to the back
5 side of the housing to align the port of each media drive one at a time with the picker
6 assembly.

1 10. The storage library of claim 1 further comprising at least one
2 additional slot disposed approximate the back side of the housing.

1 11. The storage library of claim 1 wherein the left plurality of slots
2 are in the form of a left magazine, and the right plurality of slots are in the form of
3 a right magazine, the storage library further comprising at least two magazine sockets

4 demountably coupling the left magazine and the right magazine respectively to the
5 housing.

1 12. The storage magazine of claim 1 wherein the left plurality of
2 slots is at least ten slots, and the right plurality of slots is at least ten slots.

1 13. The storage library of claim 1 wherein:
2 the port of the at least one media drive is approximately facing the
3 opening of the front side of the housing.